

Japanese Tsunami
Marine Debris

JTMD RESPONSE



Response Details:

Date Reported: **May 10, 2015**

Debris: **Fiberglass Boat**

Identification #: **N/A**

Estimated Time at Sea: **4.2 years**

Japanese Tsunami Debris Confirmation: **Strong Informal Evidence**

Washington State Location: **Seaview/Long Beach**
Lat 46.3312; Long -124.0686

Size: **9.0 m x 2.2 m**

Sample Collection: **Reaves & Pleus (WDFW)**

Beach Removal: **State Parks**

Number Non-Native Coastal Species Types: **Estimated > 20**

Summary:

After more than four years at sea, this boat is considered likely to be debris from the March 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake and resulting tsunami. Informal evidence includes boat style, winch manufacturing identification plate and common boat safety sticker information in Japanese, open sea species colonization, and presence of a diverse population of non-native coastal marine species. The boat was reported and removed from the beach on May 10th by State Parks near the Seaview beach entrance on Long Beach peninsula. WDFW staff collected samples of the organisms attached to the boat for assessment of aquatic invasive species risk. There were a large variety of non-native coastal species collected including 85+ blue mussels (*Mytilus galloprovincialis*), 24+ pink barnacles (*Megabalanus rosa*), 75+ other mussels, oysters, and scallops, marine worms, possible tunicate, amphipods, caprellids, hydroids, algae, and shipworms. Sample collection included extensive cutting up of the boat to look for species that colonized inside damaged hull areas. The number and diversity of species is astounding after being as sea so long.